

Michigan Women

A Publication of the Michigan Women's Commission

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◆ GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM ◆ DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR DANIEL H. KRICHBAUM ◆
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Human Trafficking

In August 2010, 159 adolescent Michigan girls were found to be victims of commercial sexual exploitation, which is also known as sex trafficking. This calculated number has increased from previous counts that had been taken earlier in the year. The independent research firm Schapiro Group, commissioned by the Women's Funding Network for the Michigan Women's Foundation, calculated 141 victims of sex trafficking in May and 117 in February 2010. Sex trafficking has been becoming a serious issue for Michigan. Child sex trafficking is a form of

modern day slavery in which a person under 18 is forced to perform a commercial sex act; this involves the acts of child prostitution, child pornography, or any other form of sexual activity. The exploitation of children in this instance can also include the additional acts of forced child labor and the execution of services. Sex trafficking victims typically include women and children; however, men have been recorded as victims. The median age of entry for a typical sex trafficking victim is 12 to 14 years of age. Michigan is ranked 13th in the country for its quantity of sex trafficking victims. It

is suspected that Michigan is a high trafficking point for international trafficking because of its close borders with Canada.

In addition, more than 100,000 children across the United States are sex trafficking victims and approximately 300,000 children are at risk of becoming commercially sexually exploited. In addition to the research count by the Schapiro Group in Michigan, these counts have also been completed in Georgia, Minnesota, and New York. Previously sex trafficking victims have not been able to be easily identified. The number of

victims calculated by the Schapiro Group is found using only escort services and internet websites, such as Craigslist and Backpage.com. There are still many more victims in certain areas, such as activity in hotels and on streets, which researchers have found challenging to count due to safety concerns for the researchers and the victims. Also, these victims are often arrested and prosecuted for the acts of prostitution and are then not considered to be victims of sex trafficking. Children everyday are forced and coerced by pimps and traffickers to perform services.

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Human Trafficking

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There are many reasons that trafficking is the second fastest growing criminal industry. One of the primary reasons is the over-sexualization of today's society. This has led to a high sexual desire and demand for younger girls. These children are then being manipulated and coerced into fulfilling the demand. Another reason for the amount of sex trafficking is poverty. The adolescents that are taken advantage of most often are those who live in poverty. 19% of children who live in the United States live in poverty. These poverty-stricken adolescents often comply with coercion just so they can survive and meet their basic needs.

Sex trafficking is an issue that few people are aware of, which further propels the underground industry without anyone knowing quite how to stop

it. Michigan has current legislation on human trafficking that was adopted as law in 2006. However, this law has been found to be ineffective due to the fact that human trafficking is difficult to identify. Another issue with the current statute is that there aren't enough resources for law enforcement personnel to catch the buyers and pimps. There are also few appropriate shelters for victims. The victims are then forced to stay in juvenile detention facilities and are treated like criminals. Many bills have been introduced into Michigan's House of Representatives and Senate that have the potential to help reform the current human trafficking law. In addition, on September 4th, 2010, Craigslist was pressured to close down the adult services part of its website.

Several individuals from respected organizations across the state have been convened by the Michigan Women's Foundation to discuss the problem of child sex trafficking. Some of those organizations include: Michigan Women's Commission, Zonta, Lansing Police Department, F.B.I., Vista Maria, Michigan Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, The Hope Project and War International. The Michigan Women's Foundation brought these select professionals together to discuss bringing a campaign to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children in Michigan. This campaign is called "A Future, Not a Past" (AFNAP). It was first implemented in Georgia where it became quite successful. Michigan is a part of at least 9 other states that will implement this campaign across the country. (Only New York, Georgia, and Minnesota are chosen as of now).

The Michigan Women's Foundation has received a start-up \$20,000 grant from the Women's Funding Network to replicate AFNAP in Michigan. By bringing together people willing to take a stance against trafficking, Michigan's AFNAP will help by raising public awareness, changing public policy and developing strategies to meet the needs of victims.

In addition, the Michigan House of Representatives has introduced and passed a package of bills addressing human trafficking: The bills are HB 5575-5579. They are now awaiting action in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sources: Ms. Magazine, "Jailing Girls for Men's Crimes". 2010
AFNAP.org
miwof.org
womensfundingnetwork.org

Three "Young Women, Strong Leaders" conferences were held on March 19 at Eastern Michigan University, April 9 at Grand Valley State University, and April 23 at North Central Michigan College. Approximately 300 students and 100 mentors participated in the events. In August, the National Association of Commissions for Women presented the Michigan Women's Commission with an Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of the program. The core sponsors included the three conference host sites, Michigan ACE Women's Network, Michigan Women's Commission, Michigan State University Women's Resource Center, Michigan Department of Education, Office of Career & Technical Preparation, and the U.S.

Department of Labor, Women's Bureau. The Michigan Women's Commission voted at its September meeting to continue participation in the program in 2011.



Students at North Central Michigan College Conference

Trainings

The Michigan Department of Civil Rights provides several trainings available to work places or organizations that might be useful. The list of trainings includes:

- Disability
- Diversity
- Sexual Harassment for Employees
- Sexual Harassment for Management
- Housing
- General Civil Rights
- Building Cultural Competency
- Discriminatory Harassment

Education by department colleagues provides customers with information about civil rights laws and enhances the awareness of civil rights issues. It provides a resource for the proactive prevention of discrimination within a community. The trainings vary in length. If you would like more information about the trainings, please contact John Golaszewski, (517) 241-5636.

Status of Legislation 2009-2010

The Michigan Women's Commission has taken a position that has passed or seen some action. On December 31, 2010, the legislation introduced since January 2009 will die and a new session will start January 2011. For a complete list of legislation, see www.michigan.gov/mdcr.

Senate Bills

SB 3 (Jansen) – specifies definition of individual to include fetus. Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 64 (Jacobs) - expands prescription coverage to include contraceptives. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 79 (George) - prohibits smoking in food service establishments. Assigned to Senate Committee on Government Operations & Reform. **MI Women's Commission supports the concept.**

SB 97 (Brater) - eliminates qualifications for absentee voting. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Campaign & Election Oversight. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 114 (Basham) - prohibits smoking in places of employment and expand smoking prohibition in food service establishments. Assigned to the Senate Government Reform and Regulation. **MI Women's Commission supports the concept.**

SB 147 (Brown) - prohibits partial-birth abortions. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 148 (Papageorge) - provides sentencing guidelines for the crime of performing a partial-birth abortion. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 159 (Anderson) - requires schools to have policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school. Assigned to Senate Education Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 167 (Scott, Martha) - expands prescription coverage to include contraceptives. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 185 (Garcia) - allows for certain victims of domestic assault early lease termination. Passed Senate and House. PA 199 of 2010. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 275 (Jelinek) - requires schools to have policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school. Assigned to the Senate Education Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 469 (Hunter) - prohibits smoking in places of employment and require issue to be placed on the ballot. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Government Operations & Reform. **MI Women's Commission supports the concept.**

SB 486 (Brater) - same as HB 4851 – amends Elliott Larsen to provide equal compensation for comparable work. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 487 (Brater) - same as HB 4853- modifies provision regarding wage discrimination based on sex. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 488 - (Whitmer)- same as HB 4854- establishes commission on pay equity. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 489 (Whitmer) - same as HB 4852- increases penalties for wage discrimination based on gender. Assigned to the Senate Committee on Commerce and Tourism. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 497 (Clarke) - prohibits discrimination for bias motivated crimes. Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 498 (Clarke) – provides sentencing guidelines for bias motivated crimes. Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

SB 499 (Khan) - allows health care providers to refuse to provide health care services based on ethical, moral or religious grounds. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 658 (Scott) - expands health insurance prescription coverage to include certain contraceptives. Assigned to the Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 659 (Brater) -requires health insurance coverage for infertility treatments if pregnancy-related benefits are provided. Assigned to the Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 660 (Jacobs) -requires health insurance coverage for infertility treatments if pregnancy-related benefits are provided. Assigned to the Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 661 (Brater) - requires health insurance coverage for pap smears to be covered. Assigned to the Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 662 (Clark-Coleman) - requires pap smears to be covered by health insurance in certain cases. Assigned to the Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 663 (Clark-Coleman) - provides for age appropriate, medically accurate and objective sexuality education. Assigned to the Senate Education Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 664 (Thomas) - creates emergency contraception education act. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 665 (Scott) -establishes a uniform curricula on dating violence training, policy and education. Assigned to Senate Education Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 666 (Jacobs) - requires emergency rooms or urgent care centers to offer emergency contraception to victims of sexual assault. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 667(Cherry) - requires pharmacists to fill prescriptions without bias. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 668 (Whitmer) - requires that crisis pregnancy organizations obtain informed consent from pregnant women. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 727 (Birkholz) – prohibits surrendered adoptees from obtaining certain identifying information. Passed Senate 3/2010 and in House Families & Children's Services Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 1062 (Scott) – provides for coverage for human papillomavirus (HPV) screening in health insurance. Assigned to Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 1063 (Scott) - provides for coverage for human papillomavirus (HPV) screening for health care corporations. Assigned to Senate Economic Development and Regulatory Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 1118 (Gilbert) & 1119 (Jacobs) & SB 1120 (Hunter) - amend the Safe Delivery of Newborns Law and Juvenile Code to modify provisions under which the family court may terminate parental rights to a surrendered newborn. Go with SB 727. Passed Senate and in House Families & Children's Services Committee. **MWC supports.**

SB 1127 (McManus) – eliminates under certain circumstances no-fault divorces. Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 1283 (Kuipers) – amends current provision for ultrasound prior to an abortion to be done with the most technologically advanced ultrasound equipment. Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 1293 (Gilbert) – prohibits abortion coverage in policies offered through the state exchange unless purchased as an optional rider. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 1294 (Jansen) – prohibits abortion coverage in qualified health plans offered through the state exchange unless purchased as an optional rider. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SB 1295 (Kuipers) - prohibits abortion coverage in health plans unless purchased as an optional rider. Assigned to the Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SJR M (Brown) – amends the MI Constitution to establish and clarify right to life. Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

SJR O (Patterson) – amends the MI Constitution to establish and clarify right to life. Assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 4097 (Griffin) - allows no-reason absentee voting. Assigned to the House Committee on Ethics and Elections. **MWC supports.**

HB 4099 (Scott) - prohibits smoking in workplace. Assigned to the House Commerce Committee. **MWC supports the concept.**

HB 4131 (Smith, Alma) - provides for second parent adoption. 4/22/09 - second reading, H-2, House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HB 4192 (Warren) - includes sexual orientation and gender identity or expression as protected categories under the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. 11/4/2009 on second reading in the House. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4212 (Sheltrown) - prohibits partial-birth abortions. Assigned to the House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 4213 (Meltzer) - enacts sentencing guidelines for crime of performing a partial-birth abortion. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 4327 (Young) - prohibits discrimination for pregnant workers. Passed House, 3/18/2008. Passed Senate and signed 12/30/2009, PA 190 of 2009. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4341 (Bauer) - prohibits smoking in places of employment and expand smoking prohibition in food service establishments. Assigned to the House Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports the concept.**

HB 4367 (Stanley) - allows no-reason absentee ballots. Passed House and 5/6/09 assigned to Senate Government Operations Committee. **MWC supports.**

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Status of Legislation

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HB 4368 (Stanley) - allows early voting. 4/09 passed House and in Senate Ethics & Elections Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 4377 (Gonzales) - prohibits smoking in workplace and in food service establishments with certain exceptions. Passed House. Passed senate and 12/18/09 signed as PA 188 of 2009. Takes effect May 1, 2010. **MI Women's Commission supports the concept.**

HB 4470 (Neumann) - provides for adoption leave. 4/28/2009 passed House and assigned to Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 4525 (Opsommer) - amends the penal code to establish a crime for performing a coercive abortion. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 4526 (Sheltrown) - amends the code of criminal procedure to establish penalties for violating the "coercive abortion prevention act." Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 4580 (Byrnes) - requires policy prohibiting harassment and bullying at school. Passed House on 5/13/10 and assigned to the Senate Education Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4752 (Huckleberry) - prohibits smoking in workplace. Assigned to the House Regulatory Reform Committee. **MWC supports concept.**

HB 4835 (Stanley) - amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to add penalties for violating bias-motivated crimes. Passed House 5/20/09 and assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4836 (Robert Jones) - amends the Michigan Penal Code to remove ethnic intimidation and include bias-motivated crimes. Passed House 5/20/09 and assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4851 (Bauer) - amends Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination for failing to provide equal compensation for comparable work. Assigned to the House Labor Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4852 (Byrnes) - same as SB 489 - amends the penal code make crime if wage discrimination is based on sex. Assigned to the House Labor Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4853 (Roberts) - same as SB 487 - amend the penal code provides penalties for wage discrimination based on gender increase under certain circumstances. Assigned to the House Labor Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 4854 (Slavens) - same as SB 488 - amend Elliott Larsen - establishes a commission on pay equity. Assigned to the House Labor Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 5021 (Warren) - requires dating violence training, policy, and education in middle schools and high schools. Assigned to the House Education Committee. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 5097 (Meadows) - provides for mental health parity. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5114 (Calley) - mandates mandatory joint custody. Assigned to the House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 5135 (Scott, P) - creates "Choose Life" specialty license plate. Assigned to the House Transportation Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 5155 (Warren) - requires emergency room or urgent care clinic to offer emergency contraception. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and 3/24/2010 passed House, 66/42. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5156 (Byrnes) - expands prescription coverage to include certain contraceptives. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HB 5157 (Roberts) - expands prescription coverage to include certain contraceptives. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on Second Reading. **MWC supports.**

HB 5158 (Meadows) - requires crisis pregnancy organization to obtain informed consent by pregnant women before providing services. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on 3/24/2010 passed House 66/42. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5159 (Hammel) - requires coverage for infertility treatment if pregnancy-related benefits are provided. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5160 (Miller) - requires coverage for infertility treatment if pregnancy-related benefits are provided. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5161 (Valentine) - requires Pap smears to be covered by insurance under certain cases. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HB 5162 (Liss) - requires Pap smears to be covered by insurance under certain circumstances. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HB 5163 (Smith) - provides for age appropriate, medically accurate and objective sexuality education. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and 3/24/2010 passed House 61/47. Assigned to Senate Education Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5164 (Brown, L.) - provides for requirement for a pharmacist to fill prescriptions without bias. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HB 5165 (Donigan) - creates the contraceptive education act. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on 3/24/2010 passed House 65/43. Assigned to Senate Health Policy Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5515 (Warren) - protects breastfeeding in public places as a civil right. Reported by the House Judiciary Committee and 12/09 on second reading in House. **MI Women's Commission supports.**

HB 5575 (Spade) - prohibits human trafficking. 1/20/2010 passed House and in Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5576 (LeBlanc) - establishes sentencing guidelines for human trafficking. 1/20/2010 passed House and in Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5577 (Barnett) - makes human trafficking an offense for racketeering. 1/20/2010 passed House and in Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5578 (Jackson) - allows forfeiture of property for human trafficking. 1/20/2010 passed House and in Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5579 (Gonzales) - provides restitution for human trafficking. 1/20/2010 passed House and in Senate Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5676 (Constan) - creates Michigan's Public Defense Act. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC supports.**

HB 5949-51 (McMillan) - provides for covenant marriage and amend statutes for marriage license. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 5972-73 -(Meltzer & Sheltrown) - eliminate pistol licensing requirement.. Referred to second reading in the House from the House Tourism, Outdoor, Recreation and Natural Resources Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 6075 (Opsommer) - prohibit abortion coverage in qualified health plans. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. **MWC opposes.**

HB 6201 (Calley) - prohibits insurance abortion coverage except through the purchase of optional ride. Assigned to the House Committee on Health Policy. **MWC opposes.**

HB 6202 (Tyler) - prohibits insurance abortion coverage through health care corporations except through the purchase of optional tide. Assigned to the House Committee on Health Policy. **MWC opposes.**

HR 84 (Kennedy) - a resolution recognizing April 28, 2009, as Equal Pay Day in the state of Michigan. 04/28/2009 - Roll Call # 175 Yeas 108 Nays 1 **MWC supports.**

HR 118 (Warren) - memorializes Congress to adopt legislation expressing the sense that national health care reform should ensure that the health care needs of women and of all individuals in the United States are met. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HR 119 (Slavens) - expresses the sense of this legislative body that the state of Michigan should intensify its efforts to reduce the high rates of teen pregnancies. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HR 120 (Kennedy) - memorializes Congress to enact the Prevention First Act to increase access to birth control to prevent unintended pregnancies and reduce the need for abortions. Reported by House Judiciary Committee on 9/9/2009 and on House Floor. **MWC supports.**

HR 251 (Kennedy) - recognizes Equal Pay Day as April 20, 2010. Adopted. **MWC supports.**

HCR 23 (Segal) - urges Department of Community Health to promote programs to identify and address inequalities in the prevention, treatment and research of diseases threatening the health of women. On second reading in the House. **MWC supports.**

Federal Legislation:

Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act - signed by President 1/9/2009. **MWC supports.**

Paycheck Fairness Act - HR 12 (DeLauro) and S 182 (Clinton). Passed House. In Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. **MWC supports.**

Ratification of CEDAW - House Resolution 22 states that the Senate should ratify CEDAW. Senate is getting co-sponsors for a similar resolution. **MWC supports.**

Health care reform with comprehensive reproductive rights, oppose Stupak-Pitts amendment and changes in mammography standards. **MWC supports.**

TANF Reform - **MWC supports.**

www.legislature.mi.gov for more information.

Michigan Women's Hall of Fame

On October 19, the following women were inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. We congratulate all of the recipients!

The 2010 Michigan Women's Hall of Fame honorees in the **CONTEMPORARY CATEGORY** are:

- **Mary Aikey**, East Lansing. Advocate for women's and seniors' rights, Aikey improved the lives of women and girls as the Executive Director of the Greater Lansing YWCA for over 20 years. She chaired the Michigan Coordinating Committee for the 1975 National Women's Conference created by Congress.
- **Laura Carter Callow**, Livonia. A dedicated activist for women's civil rights, Callow's concern for women's economic equality lead her to work for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment on the state and national levels for over 30 years.
- **Sandy Draggoo**, Haslett. One of the first women to lead a public transportation system in the country, Draggoo has been the CEO/Executive Director of the Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) since 1985. Under her leadership CATA received the American Public Transportation Association's Outstanding Achievement Award in 1991 and 2007.
- **Sherrill Freeborough**, Howell. Rising through the ranks of the predominately male auto industry, Freeborough became one of only nine female Saturn dealers in the country. Freeborough's business acumen helped her emerge from auto industry turmoil as the new owner of a Hyundai dealership.
- **Dorean Marguerite Hurley Koenig**, Haslett. A law professor and writer, Koenig has influenced domestic and international criminal law. Koenig worked for the formation of the International Criminal Court in The Hague. In the United States, she worked to end the death penalty and refine death penalty standards for the severely mentally ill.
Koenig was the first female tenured professor at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School.
- **Terry McMillan**, Port Huron. Bestselling author and pioneer of the African-American romance genre, McMillan writes strong, black, female protagonists and explores the

dynamic role they play in relationships. Her novel *Waiting to Exhale*, which spent 38 weeks on *The New York Times* bestseller list, and *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* were made into major motion pictures.

- **Cynthia J. Pasky**, Detroit. A business woman and Detroit community leader, Pasky grew her information technology services company, Strategic Staffing Solutions, from one office and three employees in 1990 to an international firm with more than 1,700 employees.

The Hall of Fame honorees in the **HISTORICAL CATEGORY** include:

- **Augusta Jane Chapin**, associated with Lansing. The second woman to be ordained a Universalist minister, Chapin dedicated her life to education and women's rights. Chapin championed equality for women in society and the church, and was the first woman to receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree.
- **Annie Etheridge**, born in Detroit. A nurse in the Union Army during the Civil War, Etheridge rose to prominence for her bravery under fire and care of soldiers on the battle field. She received the Kearny Cross, a medal awarded to soldiers that distinguish themselves in battle. Congress granted Etheridge a pension and she was buried in Arlington National Cemetery in 1913.
- **Edith Munger**, born in Hart. Affectionately called the "Bird Woman," Munger worked at the forefront of bird conservation. The first female president of the Michigan Audubon Society in 1911, she campaigned to make the American Robin the state bird, worked to protect Michigan's raptor and game bird populations, and lobbied for the preservation of Michigan's natural spaces.

In addition, the Philip A. Hart Award is presented annually to male citizens who have demonstrated a unique understanding and support of women's issues and concerns and have contributed to the advancement of women's rights and interests. This year's recipients are:

Thomas J. Bissonnette, the Associate Executive Director for Nursing Practices at the Michigan Nurses Association.

Daniel Granholm Mulhern, the *first* First Gentleman of Michigan.

Status of Women's Health Research

The Institute of Medicine issued a new report on women's health in September, entitled "Women' Health Research, Progress, Pitfalls, and Promise." The report is available at www.iom.edu/womenshealthresearch. The report noted that although there has been considerable investment during the last 20 years in women's health research, much work remains to be done.

The report noted that in the areas of breast cancer, cardiovascular disease, and cervical cancer major progress has been made. Furthermore, research has contributed to some progress in the areas of depression, HIV/AIDS and osteoporosis. However, conditions on which there has been little progress were unintended pregnancy, maternal morbidity and mortality, autoimmune diseases, alcohol and drug addiction, lung cancer, gynecological cancers other than cervical cancer, non-malignant gynecological disorders, and Alzheimer's Disease.

Recommendations included sustaining and strengthening research on women's health, developing targeted initiatives to increase research on the populations of women that have the highest risks and burdens of disease, promoting wellness and quality of life in women.

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CALENDAR

Dec. 8, 10:00 a.m. – Michigan Women's Commission Meeting, 110 W. Michigan Ave., 8th floor, Lansing MI.
Legislative Committee 10 a.m., Commission meeting 1:00 p.m. Call 517-373-2884 for information.

A complete calendar is available at www.michigan.gov/mdcr.

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